

## NEW YORK LETTER

By Norman.

New York, Nov. 5.—"Certainly I got the man's \$30,000. He was trying to swindle me, and I beat him to it. A partner has a right to withdraw from the bank and appropriate all the partnership funds. I did it. I was within the law. You can't touch me."

"My dear girl, the last time you tried to separate an old gentleman from his roll, you got into jail. Now just leave this to me, and we will get \$10,000 from General Hastings by a perfectly legal process, without the least danger of any trouble."

"Certainly he shot the man, But a man who breaks into a house at night becomes by his act a burglar, and the man who lives in the house has a right to kill him."

Lines from about as interesting a play to Little Old New York as has come along in a month of Sundays—"Within the Law." A most ingenious (and melodramatic) exposition by Bayard Veiller of how one may be a crook without being a criminal, if one has proper legal advice.

Mary Turner, who works in a department store, is arrested for stealing goods. She didn't steal them. Another girl did, and hid them in Mary's locker. But Mary can't prove that. The crook guy who owns the department store asks the judge to please hand her something the rest of the thieves in his store will notice. The judge, being a friend

of his, does it. He gives Mary three years.

Mary exits out of Act I, telling the judge she will get square when her time is up. In Act II her time is up. It has been up for some little time. Mary is an honest, hard-working crook, with a good lawyer, and she is living in a swell apartment, with a couple of assistant crooks. They are robbing people of huge sums of money, and doing it just as legally as the Standard Oil Co. or the shoe trust.

The lines of Mary's given above are a fair line of samples, but they by no means indicate the extent of Mary's activities. She pulls a very fine siren effect on the son of the prosperous gent who sent her to jail, and marries said son, without letting him know that she has done time for robbing his pa's emporium. When pa learns about this he is very cross.

Mary makes boobs of the police, puts it all over her pop-in-law, and finally surprises herself by falling in love with her husband.

But her big hit is swindling people legally. People would like the show here, even if it wasn't a good show. But it is.

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"We have been married for twelve years now," said a devoted wife, "and on each anniversary I have baked you a cake. Do you remember them, dearest?" "Indeed I do," replied the husband. "They have been the milestones of my life."